GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2447
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2015
Mid-day-Meal in Assam
Rajbhar Shri Hari Narayan

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any instance wherein 30 lakhs Children in fake names were provided Mid-day-Meal and free of cost books in Assam has come to the notice of the Government;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether such incidents from other State have also come to the notice of the Government; and if so, the details thereof; and
(d) the steps taken by the Government to check the misappropriation and misuse of funds?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) to (c): The Government of Assam has reported that there is no such incident in the State. Records are maintained daily about the attendance and participation of children under Mid Day Meal Scheme by the concerned schools. The distribution of free text books is based on the Unified District Information Systems for Education (U-DISE) data as on 30th September of the preceding year.

(d): In order to ensure smooth and effective implementation of the Mid Day Meal Scheme, elaborate monitoring mechanisms exist at both State and the Central levels. At national level, an Empowered Committee, headed by Minister of HRD, a National level Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee (NSMC) and Programme Approval Board (PAB) monitor the Scheme and suggest policy measures for effective implementation of the Scheme. At the State level, State level Steering−cum-Monitoring Committee headed by Chief Secretary and at the District Level Committee under the Chairpersonship of senior most Member of Parliament of Lok Sabha monitor the scheme. Joint Review Missions (JRM) headed by experts also review the scheme. In addition, 38 independents Monitoring Institutes (MIs) have been engaged for monitoring and evaluation of the scheme on half-yearly basis. Besides the above, the Guidelines also envisage monitoring of 25% of the schools on quarterly basis by the officials of the States / UTs. There is also a Management Information System (MIS) for monitoring of the Scheme.

The State Government of Assam has reported that it takes necessary steps against the concerned school authority, if misappropriation and misuse of fund or foodgrain is reported.

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